



A Merriam-Webster®

New Collegiate Dictionary

a Merriam-Webster®

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30RMcN78

1 crown, 2 shoulder, 3 head lines, 4 bow, 5 lip, 6 mouth, 7 clapper

ing an unconditional response

j 1: not conforming 2: ex-
-un-con-form-ably \-blē adv
archaic: lack of conformity 2
between rock strata in contact
position, weathering, or erosion
inconformable strata
j 1: not sympathetic or com-
pat fitted: UNSUITABLE (a soil ~
ite: DISAGREEABLE (an ~ task)
-jēn-'yal- \ n: the quality of

bāl \-ān- \ adj 1: incapable of
an ~ will 2: incapable of
-un-con-quer-ably \-blē adv
-bāl adj 1: not guided or
UPULOUS (an ~ villain) 2: a
an ~ number of defects in the
lust (~ sales practices) — un-
-nā-'bil-āt-ē \ n — un-con-scio-
-nās, -ān- \ n — un-con-scio-na-

- \ adj 1: a: not knowing or
rom self-awareness 2: a: not
ss (~ matter) b: (1): not
sation, or feeling (~ motivation)
ious c: having lost conscious-
not consciously held or deliber-
ias) — un-con-sciously adv —

psychic apparatus that does not
wareness and that is manifested
the tongue or dissociated acts or

\ adj 1: not considered or
ling from consideration
\ adj: loosely arranged: not

-tā-'(y)ūsh-nāl, -ān- \ adj: not
stitution of a body politic (as a
ty \-tā-'(y)ūsh-nāl-āt-ē \ n — un-
-lē, -ān- \ adj
n: freedom from constraint

PONTANEITY shared meaning ele-
ession or a mood or style marked

ij 1 archaic: free from control
2: incapable of being controlled
-bly \-blē adv

-ān- \ adj: not conventional
with convention: being out of
-ān- \ adj
-ān- \ adj
not convincing: IMPLAUSIBLE
-ān- \ adj
-ān- \ adj
cking in assurance 2: failing to
ilar group

to draw a cork from 2: a: to
state (~ a surprise) b: to let go

provided with a cork
1: not wearing a corset 2: not

not counted 2: INNUMERABLE
release (dogs) from a couple 2
d cars) — un-cou-pler \-dō-'plər \ n
1: uncouth, fr. un- + cūth familiar,
vn, OE can know — more at CAN
familiar to one: seldom experi-
c: MYSTERIOUS, UNCANNY 2: a
an appearance: OUTLANDISH b
wedged (~ verse) c: awkward
manner, or behavior — un-couth-

ake known: bring to light: DIS-
view by removing some covering
to remove the hat from 4: to
to remove a cover or covering 2

respect
ated as: a: not supplied with a
insurance or included in a social
not covered by collateral (an ~

ij 1: not existing by creation
not created
adj 1: not critical: lacking in
or improper use of critical stan-
-tial **ant** critical — un-crit-

took a crossed position
to the crown from: DEPOSE. DI

to restore to an original smooth

to be able to be crushed
adj not crystallized; also: not

un-ction- \ n
1: un-ction- \ n
1: the act
in healing 2: something
3: a: religious or spiri-
b: exaggerated, an-

sumed, or superficial earnestness of language or manner: UNCTU-
OUSNESS

unctuous \-ŋ(k)-chō(-wōs), -ŋ(k)-sh-wōs \ adj [ME, fr. MF or
ML: MF unctuosus, fr. ML unctuosus, irreg. fr. L unctum ointment,
fr. neut. of unctus, pp.] 1: a: FATTY, OILY b: smooth and greasy
in texture or appearance 2: a: rich in organic matter and easily
workable (~ soil) b: PLASTIC (fine ~ clay) 3: full of unctious;
esp: revealing or marked by a smug, ingratiating, and false ear-
nestness or spirituality — unctuously adv — unctuousness n
un-curl \-k(ər)-əl \ adj: to straighten the curls of: UNROLL
un-curl \-k(ər)-əl \ n, pl un-ci \-ŋ(-kī, -kē; -ān, -sī) [NL, fr. L. hook —
more at ANGLE]: a hooked anatomical part or process
un-cut \-k(ət)-ət \ adj 1: not cut down or cut into 2: not
shaped by cutting (an ~ diamond) 3 of a book: not having the
folds of the leaves slit 4: not abridged or curtailed
un-cyn-ical \-sīn-i-kəl \ adj: not cynical — un-cyn-ical-ly
\-k(ə)-lē \ adv

un-daunt-able \-dōnt-ə-bəl, -dānt- \ adj: incapable of being
daunted: FEARLESS

un-daunt-ed \-əd \ adj: courageously resolute esp. in the face of
stress — un-daunt-ed-ly adv

un-de-bat-able \-dē-bāt-ə-bəl \ adj: not subject to debate: IN-
DISPUTABLE — un-de-bat-ably \-blē adv

un-dec- \-dēk- \ n, pl un-dec \-dēk(-tēn) \ n, fr. unus one + decem ten — more at
ONE, TEN]: eleven (undecillion)
un-de-cive \-dē-di-'sēv \ v: to free from deception, illusion, or
error

un-de-cil-ion \-dē-di-'sīl-yən \ n, often attrib [undec- + -illion (as in
million)] — see NUMBER table

un-dec-y-le-nic acid \-dēk(-tēn)-des-ə-'lən-ik-, -lən- \ n [undecylene
(C₁₁H₂₂)]: an acid C₁₁H₂₂O₂ found in perspiration, obtained com-
mercially from castor oil, and used in the treatment of fungous
infections of the skin

un-de-fend-ed \-dē-'fēn-dəd \ adj: not defended
un-dem-o-cra-tic \-dē-'dēm-ə-'krāt-ik \ adj: not democratic: not
agreeing with democratic practice or ideals — un-dem-o-cra-tic-ally
\-k(ə)-lē \ adv

un-de-mon-strative \-dē-'mān(t)-strat-iv \ adj: restrained in
expression of feeling: RESERVED — un-de-mon-strative-ly adv —
un-de-mon-strative-ness n

un-de-ni-able \-dē-'nī-ə-bəl \ adj 1: plainly true: INCONTEST-
ABLE 2: unquestionably excellent or genuine (an applicant with
~ references) — un-de-ni-a-ble-ness n — un-de-ni-a-ble-ly \-blē adv

un-der \-dər \ adj [ME, adv. & prep., fr. OE; akin to OHG
unter under, L inferus situated beneath, lower, infra below, Skt
adha] 1: in or into a position below or beneath something 2:
below or short of some quantity or limit (\$10 or ~) — often
used in combination (under-staffed) 3: in or into a condition of
subjection, subordination, or unconsciousness 4: so as to be
covered

un-der \-dər \ prep 1: below or beneath so as to be over-
hung, surmounted, covered, protected, or concealed by (~ sunny
skies) (swims ~ water) (a soft heart ~ a stern exterior) (~ cover
of darkness) 2: a: subject to the authority, control, guidance, or
instruction of (served ~ the general) (studied ~ the leading sculp-
tor of that era) b: receiving or undergoing the action or effect of
(~ pressure) (couraged ~ fire) (~ either) 3: within the group or
designation of (~ this heading) 4: inferior to (as in size, amount,
or rank); esp: falling short of a standard or required degree (~ the
legal age) (~ par)

un-der \-dər \ adj 1: a: lying or placed below, beneath, or on
the ventral side — often used in combination (underlip) b: fac-
ing or protruding downward 2: lower in rank or authority:
SUBORDINATE 3: lower than usual, proper, or desired in
amount, quality, or degree (an ~ dose of medicine)

un-der-achieve \-dər-ə-'chev- \ n: a student who fails to
achieve his scholastic potential

un-der-act \-dər-'rakt \ v 1: to perform (a dramatic part) with
less than the requisite skill or vigor 2: to perform with restraint
for greater dramatic impact or personal force ~ vi: to perform
feebly or with restraint

un-der-ac-tiv-ity \-rək-'tīv-ət-ē \ n: an abnormally low level of
activity

un-der-age \-dər-'rāj \ adj: of less than mature or legal age

un-der-ap-pre-ci-ated \-dər-ə-'prē-she-'āt-əd \ adj: not duly
appreciated

un-der-arm \-dər-'rām \ adj 1: placed under or on the under-
side of the arm (~ seams) 2: UNDERHAND

un-der-arm \-dər-'rām \ adj: UNDERHAND

un-der-arm \-dər-'rām \ n 1: ARMPIT 2: the part of a gar-
ment that covers the underside of the arm

un-der-bel-ly \-dər-'bel-ē \ n: the under surface of a body or
mass; esp: a vulnerable area

un-der-bid \-dər-'bīd \ vb -bid; -bidding vt 1: to bid less than
(a competing bidder) 2: to bid (a hand of cards) at less than the
strength of the hand warrants ~ vi: to bid too low — un-der-
bid-der n

un-der-body \-dər-'bād-ē \ n: the lower part of something; as: a
the lower part of an animal's body: UNDERPARTS b: the lower
parts of the body of a vehicle

un-der-bred \-dər-'brəd \ adj 1: marked by lack of good breed-
ing: ILL-BRED 2: of inferior or mixed breed (an ~ dog)

un-der-brim \-dər-'brīm \ n: a facing on the underside of a hat
brim

un-der-brush \-dər-'brəsh \ n: shrubs, bushes, or small trees
growing beneath large trees in a wood or forest: BRUSH

un-der-bud-get-ed \-dər-'bʊd-ət-əd \ adj: provided with an inad-
equately budget

un-der-cap-i-tal-ized \-k'ap-ət-'l-īzd, -k'ap-'t-l- \ adj: having too
little capital for efficient operation

un-der-car-riage \-dər-'kār-ij \ n 1: a supporting framework
(as of an automobile) 2: the landing gear of an airplane

un-der-charge \-dər-'chärj \ v: to charge (as a person) too little

— undercharge \-dər-'chärj \ n

un-der-class \-dər-'klas \ n: LOWER CLASS

un-der-class-man \-dər-'klas-mən \ n: a member of the fresh
man or sophomore class in a school or college

un-der-clothes \-dər-'klō(-th)z \ n pl: UNDERWEAR

un-der-clothing \-klō-'thīŋ \ n: UNDERWEAR

un-der-coat \-kōt \ n 1: a coat or jacket worn under another 2:
a growth of short hair or fur partly concealed by a longer growth
(a dog's ~) 3: a coat (as of paint) applied as a base for an-
other coat b: UNDERCOATING 4 dial: PETTICOAT

un-der-coat-ing \-kōt-īŋ \ n: a usu. asphalt-based waterproof
coating applied to the undersurfaces of a vehicle

un-der-colored \-dər-'kəl-əd \ adj: having less color than
needed or proper

un-der-cool \-kü \ v: SUPERCOOL

un-der-cover \-kav-ər \ adj: acting or executed in secret; specif:
employed or engaged in spying or secret investigation (an ~
agent)

un-der-croft \-dər-'krōft \ n [ME, fr. under + crofte crypt, fr.
MD, fr. ML crypta, fr. L crypta]: a subterranean room; esp: a
vaulted chamber under a church

un-der-cur-rent \-kər-ənt, -kər-ənt \ n 1: a current below the
upper currents or surface 2: a hidden opinion or feeling often
contrary to the one publicly shown — undercurrent adj

un-der-cut \-dər-'kət \ vb -cut; -cutting vt 1: to cut away the
underpart of (~ a vein of ore) 2: to cut away material from the
under side of (an object) so as to leave an overhanging portion in
relief 3: to offer to sell at lower prices than or to work for lower
wages than (a competitor) 4: to cut obliquely into (a tree) below
the main cut and on the side toward which the tree will fall 5: to
strike (a ball) with a downward glancing blow so as to give a back-
spin or elevation to the shot 6: to undermine or destroy the force
or effectiveness of (a technology that ~s democracy) ~ vi: to
perform the action of cutting away beneath

un-der-cut \-dər-'kət \ n 1: the action or result of cutting
away from the underside or lower part of something 2 Brit: TEN-
DERLOIN 1 3: a notch cut before felling in the base of a tree to
determine the direction of falling and to prevent splitting 4: a
stroke (as in tennis) made with an underhand swing

un-der-de-vel-op-ed \-dər-'dē-vəl-əpt \ adj: not normally or
adequately developed (~ muscles) (an ~ film) 2: failing to
realize a potential economic level of industrial production and
standard of living (as from lack of capital)

un-der-de-vel-op-ment \-dər-'dē-vəlmənt \ n: the quality or state of being
underdeveloped: lack of adequate development

un-der-do \-dər-'dū \ v -did \-dīd \ -done \-dōn \ -doing
\-dū-īŋ \ v: to do less thoroughly than one can

un-der-dog \-dər-'dɔg \ n 1: a loser or predicted loser in a
struggle or contest 2: a victim of injustice or persecution

un-der-done \-dər-'dɔn \ adj: not thoroughly cooked: RARE

un-der-draw-ers \-dər-'drɔ(-ə)rz \ n pl: an article of underwear
for the lower body

un-der-dress \-dres \ n: a woman's garment that is similar to a
dress and that is designed to be worn under a sheer outer garment

un-der-ed-u-cat-ed \-dər-'red-ə-'kāt-əd \ adj: poorly educated

un-der-ed-u-ca-tion \-dər-'red-ə-'kā-shən \ n: the quality or state of
being undereducated

un-der-em-pha-sis \-dər-'rem(p)-fə-səs \ n: less emphasis than is
possible or desirable

un-der-em-pha-size \-sīz \ v: to fail to emphasize adequately

un-der-em-ploy-ed \-dər-'dīm-'plɔid \ adj: having less than full-
time or adequate employment

un-der-em-ploy-ment \-plɔi-'mənt \ n 1: less than full employ-
ment of the labor force in an economy 2: employment at less
than full time: partial or inadequate employment

un-der-es-ti-mate \-dər-'res-tə-'māt \ v 1: to estimate as being
less than the actual size, quantity, or number 2: to place too low
a value on: UNDERRATE — un-der-es-ti-mate \-māt \ n — un-der-
es-ti-ma-tion \-res-tə-'mā-shən \ n

un-der-ex-posed \-dər-'dɪk-'spɔz \ v: to expose insufficiently; esp:
to expose (as film) to insufficient radiation (as light) — un-der-
ex-posure \-spɔ-'zʊər \ n

un-der-feed \-dər-'fēd \ v -fed \-fed \ -feed-ing 1: to feed
with too little food 2: to feed with fuel from the underside

un-der-fi-nanced \-fə-'nān(t)-st, -fī-, -fī- \ adj: inadequately fi-
nanced

un-der-foot \-fūt \ adv 1: under the foot esp. against the ground
(trampled the flowers ~) 2: below, at, or before one's feet
(warm sand ~) 3: in the way (children always getting ~)

un-der-fur \-dər-'fər \ n: the thick soft undercoat of fur lying
beneath the longer and coarser hair of a mammal

un-der-gar-ment \-gər-'mānt \ n: a garment to be worn under
another

un-der-gird \-dər-'gərd \ v 1: to make secure underneath (~ a
ship) 2: to form the basis or foundation of: STRENGTHEN, SUP-
PORT (faith ~s morals)

un-der-glaze \-dər-'glāz \ adj: applied or suitable for applying
before the glaze is put on (~ decorations) (~ colors) — under-
glaze n

un-der-go \-dər-'gō \ v -went \-wənt \ -gone \-gɔn \ also
-gān \ -go-ing \-gō-īŋ \ -gō(-hīŋ) \ 1 obs: UNDERTAKE 2 obs: to
partake of 3: to submit to: ENDURE 4: to go through: EXPERI-
ENCE

a	abut	*	kitten	ar	further	a	back	ā	bake	ä	col, cart
au	out	ch	chin	e	less	ē	easy	g	gift	i	trip
j	joke	ŋ	sing	ō	flow	ó	flaw	oi	coin	th	thin
ü	loot	ú	foot	y	yet	yü	few	yü	furious	zh	vision

fr. *belyi*: a cetacean (*Delphinapterus leucas*) that is about 10 feet long and white when adult
bel-ve-dere \bel-və-dī(ə)r/ *n* [lit., beautiful view]: a structure (as a cupola or a summerhouse) designed to command a view
BEM *abbr* 1 bachelor of engineering of mines 2 British Empire Medal
be-ma \be-mə/ *n* [LL & LGk; LL, fr. LGk *bēma*, fr. Gk, step, tribunal, fr. *bainein* to go — more at COME]: the part of an Eastern church containing the altar — see BASILICA illustration
Bem-ba \bem-bə/ *n*, *pl* Bemba or Bembas 1: a member of a primarily agricultural Bantu-speaking people of northern Rhodesia 2: a Bantu language of the Bemba people
be-med-aled or **be-med-alled** \bi-med-id/ *adj*: wearing or decorated with medals
be-mire \bi-mī(ə)r/ *vt* 1: to soil with mud or dirt 2: to drag through or sink in mire
be-moan \bi-mōn/ *vt* 1: to express deep grief or distress over (implores their pity, and his pain — John Dryden) 2: to regard with displeasure, disapproval, or regret *syn* see DEPLORE
be-mock \bi-māk, -mōk/ *vt*, *archaic*: MOCK
be-muse \bi-myūz/ *vt* 1: to make confused: BEWILDER 2: to cause to become lost in thought — **be-mused-ly** \-myū-zəd-ē/ *adv* — **be-muse-ment** \-myūz-mənt/ *n*
ben \ben/ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *binnan*, fr. *be-* + *innan* within, from within, fr. *in*] *Scot*: WITHIN
ben \ben/ *prep*, *Scot*: WITHIN
ben \ben/ *n*, *Scot*: the inner room or parlor of a 2-room cottage
Bence-Jones protein \ben(t)s-jōnz-/ *n* [Henry Bence-Jones †1873 E physician and chemist]: a globulin or a group of globulins found in the blood serum and urine in multiple myeloma and occurs in other bone diseases
bench \bench/ *n* [ME, fr. OE *benec*; akin to OHG *bank* bench] 1 *a*: a long seat for two or more persons *b*: a thwart in a boat *c* (1): a seat on which the members of an athletic team await a turn or opportunity to play (2): the reserve players on a team 2 *a*: the seat where a judge sits in court *b*: the office or dignity of a judge *c*: the place where justice is administered: COURT *d*: the persons who sit as judges 3 *a*: a seat for an official *b*: the office or dignity of such an official *c*: the officials occupying such a bench 4 *a*: a long worktable *b*: a table forming part of a machine 5: TERRACE, SHELF; *esp*: a former wave-cut shore of a sea or lake or floodplain of a river 6 *a*: a platform on which a dog is placed at a dog show *b*: a dog show
bench *vt* 1: to furnish with benches 2 *a*: to seat on a bench *b* (1): to remove from or keep out of a game (2): to remove from the starting lineup 3: to exhibit (dogs) on a bench *vi*: to form a bench by natural processes
bench-er \ben-cher/ *n*: one who sits on or presides at a bench
bench mark *n*: 1: a mark on a permanent object indicating elevation and serving as a reference in topographical surveys and tidal observations 2 *usu* benchmark *a*: a point of reference from which measurements may be made *b*: something that serves as a standard by which others may be measured
bench-show *n*: an exhibition of small animals in competition for prizes on the basis of points of physical conformation and condition
bench warrant *n*: a warrant issued by a presiding judge or by a court against a person guilty of contempt or indicted for a crime
band \band/ *n* [ME, fr. MF *bende*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *binta*, *bant* band — more at BAND] 1: a diagonal band that runs from the dexter chief to the sinister base on a heraldic shield 2: the half of a butt or a hide trimmed of the thinner parts 3 [ME, band, fr. OE *bend* fetter — more at BAND]: a knot by which one rope is fastened to another or to some object
band-vb *vt* *vi* *banding* [ME *bendan*, fr. OE *bendan*; akin to OE *bend* fetter] *vt* 1: to constrain or strain to tension (~ a bow) 2 *a*: to turn, or force from straight, or even to curve or angular *b*: to force back to an original straight or even condition *c*: to force from a proper shape 3: FASTEN (~ a sail to its yard) 4: to make submissive: SUBDUCE 5 *a*: to cause to turn from a straight course: DEFLECT *b*: to guide or turn toward: DIRECT *c*: INCLINE, DISPOSE 6: to direct strenuously or with interest: APPLY, ~ *vi* 1: to curve out of a straight line or position: SPECIFY 2: to incline the body in token of submission 3: to apply oneself vigorously (~ing to their work) 4: to make concessions: COMPROMISE *syn* see CURVE — **band over backwards**: to make extreme efforts at concession
band *n*: 1: the act or process of bending: the state of being bent 2: something that is bent: as *a*: a curved part of a stream *b*: JAWLE 2 — *usu*, used in pl: 3 *pl* but *sing* or *pl* in constr.: CAISSON DISEASE (a case of the ~s) — **around the bend**: MAD, CRAZY (afraid his friend was going around the bend)
band-day \ben-dā/ *adj*, often *cap* [Benjamin Day †1916 Am printer]: involving a process for adding shaded or tinted areas made up of dots for reproduction by line engraving — **band-day** *vi*
band-er \ben-dər/ *n*: 1: one that bends 2: SPREE
band sinister *n*: a diagonal bend that runs from the sinister chief to the dexter base on a heraldic shield
be-neath \bi-nēth/ *adv* [ME *benethe*, fr. OE *benoethan*, fr. *be-* + *neathan* below; akin to OE *nithra* neither] 1: in or to a lower position: BELOW 2: directly under: UNDERNEATH
beneath *prep* 1 *a*: in or to a lower position than: BELOW *b*: directly under *c*: at the foot of 2: not suitable to the rank of: unworthy of 3: under the control, pressure, or influence of
ben-e-dict \ben-ə-dīkt/ *n* [alter. of *Benedick*, character in Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*]: a newly married man who has long been a bachelor
Ben-e-dic-tine \ben-ə-dīk-tōn, -tēn/ *n*: a monk or a nun of one of the congregations following the rule of St. Benedict and devoted esp. to scholarship and liturgical worship — **Benedictine** *adj*
ben-e-dic-tion \ben-ə-dīk-shən/ *n* [ME *benedictioun*, fr. LL *benedictio*, *benedictio*, fr. *benedictus*, pp. of *benedicere* to bless, fr. L, to speak well of, fr. *bene* well + *dicere* to say — more at BOUNTY, DICATION] 1: an expression of good wishes 2: the invocation of

a blessing; *esp*: the short blessing with which public worship is concluded 3 *often cap*: a Roman Catholic or Anglo-Catholic devotion including the exposition of the eucharistic Host in the monstrance and the blessing of the people with it 4: something that promotes goodness or well-being
ben-e-dic-to-ry \dik-tōr-ē/ *adj*: of or expressing benediction
Ben-e-dic-tus \dik-təs/ *n* [LL, blessed, fr. pp. of *benedicere*; fr. its first word] 1: a canticle from Mt 21:9 beginning "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord" 2: a canticle from Lk 1:68 beginning "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel"
ben-e-fac-tion \ben-ə-fak-shən/ *n* [LL *benefactio*, *benefactio*, fr. L *benefactus*, pp. of *benefacere* to do good to, fr. *benē* + *facere* to do — more at DO] 1: the act of benefiting 2: a benefit conferred; *esp*: a charitable donation
ben-e-fac-tor \ben-ə-fak-tər/ *n*: one that confers a benefit; *esp*: one that makes a gift or bequest — **ben-e-fac-tress** \-trəs/ *n*
ben-e-fic \bə-nēf-ik/ *adj* [L *beneficus*, fr. *benē* + *facere*] *BE-NEF-ICENT*
ben-e-fice \ben-ə-fas/ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. ML *beneficium*, fr. L, favor, promotion, fr. *beneficus*] 1: an ecclesiastical office to which the revenue from an endowment is attached 2: a feudal estate in lands: FIEF — **benefice** *vi*
ben-e-fic-ence \bə-nēf-ə-sən(t)s/ *n* [L *beneficentia*, fr. *beneficus*] 1: the quality or state of being beneficent 2: BENEFACTION
ben-e-fic-ent \-sən(t)/ *adj* [back-formation fr. *beneficence*] 1: doing or producing good; *esp*: performing acts of kindness and charity 2: BENEFICIAL — **beneficently** *adv*
ben-e-fic-ial \ben-ə-fīsh-əl/ *adj* [L *beneficium* favor, benefit] 1: conferring benefits: conducive to personal or social well-being 2: receiving or entitling one to receive advantage, use, or benefit (the ~ owner of an estate) (a ~ legacy) — **ben-e-fic-ial-ly** \-fīsh-əl-ē/ *adv* — **ben-e-fic-ial-ness** *n*
syn BENEFICIAL, ADVANTAGEOUS, PROFITABLE *shared meaning element*: bringing good or gain *ant* harmful, detrimental
ben-e-fic-i-ary \ben-ə-fīsh-ē-er-ē, -fīsh-ē-er-ē/ *n*, *pl* -ries 1: one that benefits from something (beneficiaries of government programs) 2 *a*: the person designated to receive the income of a trust estate *b*: the person named (as in an insurance policy) to receive proceeds or benefits — **beneficiary** *adj*
ben-e-fic-i-ate \-fīsh-ē-āt/ *vt* -ated; -at-ing: to treat (a raw material) so as to improve properties; *esp*: to prepare (iron ore) for smelting — **ben-e-fic-i-ation** \-fīsh-ē-ā-shən/ *n*
ben-e-fit \ben-ə-fit/ *n* [ME, fr. AF *benefit*, fr. L *benefactum*, fr. neut. of *benefactus*] 1 *archaic*: an act of kindness: BENEFACTION 2 *a*: something that promotes a well-being: ADVANTAGE *b*: useful aid: HELP 3 *a*: a financial help in time of sickness, old age, or unemployment *b*: a payment, or service provided for under an annuity, pension plan, or insurance policy 4: an entertainment or social event to raise funds for a person or cause
benefit *vb* -fit-ed, -fit-ing or -fit-ted; -fit-ing or -fit-t-ing *vi*: to be useful or profitable to (medicines that ~ mankind) *vi*: to receive benefit — **ben-e-fit-er** \-fit-ər/ *n*
benefit of clergy 1: clerical exemption from trial in a civil court 2: the ministrations or sanction of the church (a couple living together without benefit of clergy)
ben-ev-o-lence \bə-nēv(ə)-ləns(t)s/ *n* 1: disposition to do good 2 *a*: an act of kindness *b*: a generous gift 3: a compulsory levy by certain English kings with no other authority than the claim of prerogative
ben-ev-o-lent \lənt/ *adj* [ME, fr. L *benevolens*, *benevolens*, fr. *benē* + *volens*, *volens*, prp. of *velle* to wish — more at WILL] 1 *a*: marked by or disposed to doing good (a ~ donor) *b*: organized for the purpose of doing good (a ~ society) 2: marked by or suggestive of goodwill (~ smiles) — **ben-ev-o-lent-ly** *adv* — **ben-ev-o-lence** *n*
Ben-gal-ee \ben-gō-lē, -bēn-/ *n* [Hindi *Bangālī* Bengali]: a native or resident of Bangladesh — **Bengalee** *adj*
Ben-gali \ben-gō-lē, -bēn-/ *n* [Hindi *Bangālī*, fr. *Bangāl* Bengal] 1: a native or resident of Bengal 2: a native or inhabitant of Bangladesh 3: the modern Indic language of Bengal — **Bengali** *adj*
ben-ga-line \ben-gə-jēn/ *n* [F, fr. *Bengal*]: a fabric with a cross-wise rib made from textile fibers (as rayon, nylon, cotton, or wool) often in combination
Ben-gal light \ben-gōl-, -bēn-/ *n* 1: a blue light used formerly for signaling and illumination 2: any of various colored lights or flares
BEng *abbr* bachelor of engineering
BEngS *abbr* bachelor of engineering science
be-night-ed \bi-nīt-əd/ *adj* 1: overtaken by darkness or night 2: existing in a state of intellectual, moral, or social darkness: UNENLIGHTENED — **be-night-ed-ly** *adv* — **be-night-ed-ness** *n*
be-nign \bi-nīn/ *adj* [ME *benigne*, fr. MF, fr. L *benignus*; fr. *benē* well + *ignis* to be born, pass. of *gignere* to beget — more at BOUNTY, KING] 1: of a gentle disposition: GRACIOUS (a ~ teacher) 2 *a*: showing kindness and gentleness (~ faces) *b*: FAVORABLE (a ~ climate) 3: of a mild character (~ tumor); *syn* see KIND *ant* malign — **be-nign-ity** \-nīg-nē-tē/ *n* — **be-nign-ly** \-nīn-lē/ *adv*
be-nig-nan-cy \bi-nīg-nən-sē/ *n*: benignant quality
be-nig-nant \-nənt/ *adj* [benign + *ant* (as in *malignant*)] 1: benignly mild and kindly: BENIGN 2: FAVORABLE, BENEFICIAL (a ~ power) *syn* see KIND *ant* malignant — **be-nig-nant-ly** *adv*
ben-i-son \ben-ə-sən, -zən/ *n* [ME *beneson*, fr. OF *beneson*; fr. L *benediction*, *benedictio*]: BLESSING, BENEDICTION
Ben-ja-min \ben-jə-mən/ *n* [Heb. *Binyāmīn*]: a son of Jacob and the traditional eponymous ancestor of one of the tribes of Israel
ben-ne or **ben-ni** \ben-ē/ *n* [of African origin; akin to Mandingo *bēne* sesame]: SESAME 1
ben-ny \ben-ē/ *n*, *pl* bennies [Benzedrine + *-ie*] *slang*: a tablet of amphetamine taken as a stimulant
ben-t \bent/ *n* [ME, grassy place, bent grass, fr. OE *beonit*; akin to OHG *binuz* rush] 1: unenclosed grassland 2 *a* (1): a reedy grass (2): a stalk of stiff coarse grass *b*: any of a genu

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formation of gas bubbles in the tissues — usu. used with preceeding the 4 : the distance between a brow braced ready for use and its string 5 : a stylistic effect produced by varying the distance between the bows of instruments commonly employed by jazz-wind instruments in jazz bands

bend \ˈbɛnd/ *n, usu* cap B 1: the end of a railway car on which the hand brake is located

bend-a-ble \ˈbɛndəbəl/ *adj* [ˈbend + -able] : capable of being bent

bend *vi* (ˈbɛnd/ *vi* -ED/-ING/-s [*fr. Ben Day* process, after Benjamin Day 1916 Am. printer] : to produce or prepare by the bend process (→ a plate) [*a red area*])

bend-y \-i/ *adj, often* cap B [*fr. Ben Day* process] : involving or used in a method of adding tints made up of dots, lines, or other patterns to original copy, negatives, or plates for reproduction as line engravings

bending knee \ˈbɛndɪŋ ˈkniː/ *n* : kneeling or as if kneeling in supplication

bender \ˈbɛndər/ *n* -s [ME, *fr. bend + -er*] 1 : one that bends or folds: as a : an instrument or power-driven machine for bending b : a factory worker who bends and shapes wooden or metal parts of furniture or by machine; *specif* : one who bends wooden parts of handiwork that have been made of flexible material 2 : a cotton-grown worker who folds blanks (as for boxes or bags) along scored lines to prepare them for further processing or to collapse them for shipment 3 : a paperboard suitable for folding — called also *bending board* 2 : SPREE (go out on a ~) 3 *slang* Brit : SIXPENCE

diablic *adj* [*fr. Eng.*] : extraordinary specimen (It's a ~ of a ~)

bend *vt* (ˈbɛnd/ *vt* -ED/-ING/-s [*fr. BENDER* COTTON]) 1 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 2 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 3 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 4 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 5 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 6 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 7 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 8 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 9 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 10 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 11 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 12 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 13 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 14 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 15 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 16 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 17 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 18 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 19 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 20 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 21 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 22 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 23 : to bend or to pull (the ~ of a rope) 24 : to bend or to pull 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relating to benediction (the ~ attitude of the child —Herbert Read)

ben·e·dic·tive \ˈbɛn,ɪˈdɪv\ *adj* [*LL* *benedictus* (past part. of *benedicere* 'to bless') + *E* -ive] of a set of verb forms; expressing blessing or praise

ben·e·dic·tive *adv* in a benedictive manner; in a manner of blessing and of moods with similar grammatical meaning in other languages —**ben·e·dic·tive·ly** *adv*

ben·e·dic·to·ry \-(t)əˈrɪdʒ\ *adj* [*benediction* + -ory]: of or expressing benediction (a ~ prayer)

ben·e·dict's test \ˈbɛn,ɪdɪk(t)sɪz\ *n*, *usu* *cap B* [after Stanley R. Benedict, 1913, chemist] a physiological test: a test for the presence of a reducing sugar in a solution (as urine) by heating with a complex reagent containing sodium carbonate and citrate and copper sulfate, a colored precipitate being indicative of the presence of a reducing sugar

ben·e·dight \ˈbɛn,ɪdɪt\ *adj* [ME, fr. LL *benedictus* — more at *benediction*] archaic: *BLESS*

ben·e·fac·tor \ˈbɛn,ɪˈfæktər\ *n* -s [back-formation fr. *benefactor*]: to act as a benefactor

ben·e·fac·tion \ˈbɛn,ɪˈfækʃən\ *n*, *pl* [*benefactor* + -ion] *bene·fac·to·ry* *fr*, *L* *benefactor*, past part. of *benefacere* to do good to (fr. *bene* well + *facere* to make, do) + -ion-, -io -ion — more at *foundry*, DO 1: an act or action of doing good esp. by giving money (the ~ of the American G. to charity) 2: a charitable donation: GRANT, GIFT (this ~ totals almost \$5 million —*American Annual*)

ben·e·fac·tive \ˈbɛn,ɪˈtɪv\ *adj* [*benefactor* + *E* -ive] of a linguistic form: indicating that someone is benefited — used esp. of affixes and verb forms in various American Indian languages

benefactive \ˈbɛnɪfətɪv\ *n* -s: a benefactive form or set of forms in a language

ben·e·fac·tor \ˈbɛn,ɪˈfæktər\ *n*, *pl* *benefactors* sometimes *ˈbɛn,ɪˈfəktər* (a) ~s [LL, fr. *L* *benefactor* + -or]: one that gives help or confers a benefit (a ~ of mankind); *specif*: one that makes a gift of money (the ~ of the endowment); placed him high among the ~s of the continent —*Walt Whitman*

ben·e·fac·tress \ˈbɛn,ɪˈfætrəs\ *n*, *pl* *benefactresses* -trəsəz or *benefactrices* -trɪksəz or *benefac·tri·ces* \-ˈfæktərɪsɪz, -ˈfæktərɪˈsɪz\ [*benefactor* + -ess or -trix]: a female benefactor

ben·e·fic \bɪˈnɪfɪk, bɛ-ˈnɪf\ *adj* [*L* *beneficus*, fr. *bene* well + -fic] *beneficial*: performing acts of kindness and charity (a ~, having, or exerting a favorable or beneficent influence) (a ~ star) (a ~ force)

ben·e·fice \ˈbɛnɪfəs\ *n*, *pl* *benefice*-es \-fəsɪz, -fɪs-\ [ME (also, "favor, advantage, benefit"), fr. MF, fr. ML, LL, & L, *beneficium* ecclesiastical and feudal benefice, LL right, *beneficium* + -ium] 1: an ecclesiastical post or office to which property or a determined revenue is attached (as a rectory, vicarage, or perpetual curacy) 2: a feudal estate in lands; *PIEF*; *specif*: an estate granted for life only and held on the mere good pleasure of the donor 3: GIFT (a ~ of love —*Amey Lowell*)

benefice \ˈbɛnɪfɪs\ *vt* *beneficed*; *beneficened*; *beneficing* \-fɪsɪŋ, -fɪs-\ *benefic*-es [ME *beneficen*, fr. *benefice*, *n*.]: to endow or invest with a benefice (a *beneficed* clergyman)

ben·e·fice·nce \bɪˈnɪfəsən(t)s\ *n* *s* [L *beneficentia*, fr. *beneficere* + -entia -ence] 1: the quality or state of being beneficent: active goodness or kindness (men who might become pitiful employers of labor are ~) 2: *beneficence* (a ~) 2: a beneficent act or gift: *BENEFACCTION* (bestow your ~s generously but as though no such thing as gratitude existed —*W.L. Sullivan*)

ben·e·fice·nt \-nt\ *adj* [fr. *beneficence*, after such pairs as *E* *beneficence*: *benefolent*] 1: doing or producing good (a ~ deed) 2: *beneficent* (a ~ deed) 2: *beneficent* (a ~ king) 2: productive of benefit (~ bacteria) —**ben·e·fice·nt·ly** *adv*

beneficia *pl* [*beneficium*]

ben·e·fi·cial \ˈbɛn,ɪˈfɪʃəl\ *adj* [*benefice* (in obs. sense "advantage, benefit") + -ial] 1: conferring benefits: contributory (a ~ society) 2: *beneficial* (a ~ society) 3: *beneficial* (a ~ organization) (~ effects) often used with to (moist, cool summers, which are not ~ to such crops as maize —*P.E. James*) 2: receiving or entitling one to have or receive in one's own right and for one's own benefit an advantage, use, or benefit that need not be monetary (the ~ owner of securities has no interest in an estate) — see *CESTUI QUE TRUST*; compare *TRUSTEE*

SYN ADVANTAGEOUS, PROFITABLE: *BENEFICIAL*, the most general of the three words, may describe anything conducive to well-being, esp. to personal health and feeling and to social welfare (only his daughter had the power of charming this life by sending him to his mine... the touch of her hand had a strong *beneficial* influence with him almost always —*Charles Dickens*) (the relative ability of individuals and public bodies to make a *beneficial* use of the money —*J.A. Hobson*) *ADVANTAGEOUS* stresses a choice or preference for the thing referred to over something else or over its lack or absence (primitive rule or moral action... are all more or less *advantageous* and proper on the road of primitive life —*Haystack Ellis*) (the republican government found it to be very *advantageous* to pay its troops promptly, for thereby a discipline was secured that surprised the Spaniards —*J.L. Motley*) *PROFITABLE* suggests a pleasing return or remuneration in matters financial or in matters of education and character development (the war boom brought a profitable time for the nation —*W.L. Sullivan*) (*beneficial* in books are both feasible and highly profitable —*J.T. Farrell*) (give... yourselves to profitable meditation at home —*Robert Browning*)

beneficial improvement *n*: an improvement on land that enhances the value of a property but is not necessary to preserve the interest in an estate

ben·e·fi·cial·ly \-ʃəli, -li also -shl-\ *adv* : in a beneficial manner

ben·e·fi·cial·ness \-ʃənlɪs\ *n* -es: the quality or state of being beneficial

ben·e·fi·cial·ry \ˈbɛn,ɪˈfɪʃiəl, -ʃəri, -rɪ\ *n* -es [ML *beneficarius* (influenced in meaning by ML *beneficium*), fr. L, *beneficere* to do good, fr. *bene* well + -ficere to do, to make, to privilege] 1: a: one who holds a feudal benefice: *FEUDATORY*, *VASSAL* b: one who holds an ecclesiastical benefice 2: one who receives something: as a: the person designated to receive the income of a trust estate b: the person named (as in an insurance or annuity policy) as the one who is to receive the proceeds of the policy 3: a person in whose favor a letter of credit is issued entitling him to draw a draft or bill of exchange

beneficiary \ˈbɛn,ɪˈfɪʃiəri\ *adj* [ML *beneficiarius* (influenced in meaning by ML *beneficium*), fr. L, of a favor, fr. *beneficium* + -arius -ary]: arising from, held as, or having a benefice (~ *beneficiary* heir *n*, *Scots law* : an heir who enters upon the estate of his predecessor with the benefit of an inventory that determines the exact limits of his liability for the predecessor's debts)

ben·e·fi·ci·ate \ˈbɛn,ɪˈfɪʃiət\ *vt* -ED/-ING/-S [*Sp* *beneficiar* to benefit, to derive profit from working land or a mine, to benefit (fr. *beneficio* to benefit, fr. *L*, of a favor, fr. *beneficere* to do good, to make, to privilege) + -ate] 1: to process (as a raw material) so as to improve the physical and chemical properties: as a: *REDUCE* (~ ores) b: to concentrate or otherwise prepare for smelting (as iron ore) esp. by drying, sintering, or magnetic concentration —**ben·e·fi·ci·ation** \-fɪʃiˈeɪʃən\ *n*, *pl* *beneficiations* -tɪʃiˈeɪʃən

beneficial \ˈbɛnɪfɪʃəl\ *adj* [influenced in meaning by ML *beneficium*], fr. L, of a favor, fr. *beneficium* + -arius -ary]: arising from, held as, or having a benefice (~ *beneficiary* heir *n*, *Scots law* : an heir who enters upon the estate of his predecessor with the benefit of an inventory that determines the exact limits of his liability for the predecessor's debts)

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